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PITTSBURGH, SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 1888.

A SETTLED QUESTION.
The rapid progress of the scale question toward a settlement is shown by the fact that the Amalgamated scale was signed by fourteen mills yesterday. This practically settles the question. While the signing of other firms may be delayed for various reasons, it is a foregone conclusion that in all the iron mills the scale for the next year will be adopted without any dispute.

This, of course, means steady employment for our rolling mills during the coming year. Even at the close prices of the past year Pittsburgh's iron mills could keep in active operation. With the improving state of the market, we have every reason to expect steady prosperity in the finished iron industry during the next twelve months.

It is to be wished that the steel industry presented the same aspect of harmony. The one threatening point in Pittsburgh's industrial horizon is at Homestead; and everyone will hope that the difference there may be bridged over without a strike.

PITTSBURGH DAY.
Yesterday was a day to be marked with white in the records of Pittsburgh athletics. The field day of the Brushport Cricket Club has the claim upon public attention of being an exclusively amateur exhibition. All the contestants engage in athletic sports solely as a recreation and the practice of hiring professional athletes to do their playing for them, is entirely absent from the performances of that organization. While the exact opposite is true of the baseball games yesterday, the honor of Pittsburgh is nevertheless highly exalted. The glory of having donated the Philadelphia team and the glittering prospect that the home team may rise to the height of fifth place in the expanded baseball ranks so much as to expand the project of widening our streets with the character of an actual necessity.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA VERDICT.
The acquittal of McDow, the slayer of Captain Dawson at Charleston, is the end of a cause celebre, which follows the regular rule of South Carolina criminal jurisprudence, that no white man is ever hanged for murder. In this case there is apparently a better foundation for the result than usual. The disposition of the case about the height of fifth place in the expanded baseball ranks so much as to expand the project of widening our streets with the character of an actual necessity.

However reprehensible the course of the defendant may have been anterior to this dispute, it did not deprive him from the right of defending himself when threatened with violence. The conclusion of the jury appears to be a just one, and the statement of the facts and that ends the case before the courts. But it remains to be seen whether South Carolina customs will let the case end with the verdict of a jury, or whether they will pursue the fatal quarrel after the manner of the vendetta.

MISUNDERSTOOD SACRIFICES.
The answer which the President has made to the pretended criticisms on his course in going on a yacht on the Potomac for Sunday, to the effect that this is the only way in which he can obtain seclusion and rest, is quoted and amplified at length by our esteemed contemporary, the Philadelphia Ledger. That journal, after gravely arguing the harmlessness of the President's course in going upon the water and spending a quiet Sunday, enlarges upon the meanness of the party spirit which attacks the President's personal course on such slight grounds.

The esteemed Ledger would be quite right in denouncing the meanness of partisanship which could make the President's Sunday rest a matter of serious attack. Both the President and our contemporary mistake the issue and are consequently mistaken in the issue and in the arguments. The issue is, whether the circumstances of those who have to earn their daily bread by constant labor in the great cities, makes it more essential for them to get on the water or in the fields during their one day of rest.

Whatever has been said was to point out the incongruity of the class whom Judge Gresham characterized as "the Pharisees" in indulging the President's Sunday holidays and denying the same recreation to the masses.

No one has seriously blamed the President, except as he is in sympathy with those of his friends who would deny to the common people the chances for enjoying fresh air and natural pleasures which he finds necessary. But it would not be a subject of special wonder if the same great Colonel Elliott F. Shepard and others of his class should go to some winning on their own account.

A PROTRACTED TASK AHEAD.
Nobody who foresaw the complications ahead will be in the least surprised that the task of distributing the Johnston relief funds is proving many times more difficult than the collection of them. To say that the Governor's Commission has an elephant on its hands, would imply a belief that it is not equal to the emergency, for which there is yet no sufficient warrant. But that it will have a troublesome time with suggestions, criticism and point blank censure, for not doing the business in the way which everybody else is privileged to think best is already too clear.

No doubt some of the Johnston sufferers, looking at the large totals sent for their relief, have permitted themselves to think that they could at once be fully set upon their feet again in a business way. As surely that would have been the wish of the generous donors. But immense and gratifying as the relief has been, it could not be a small reward toward furnishing any considerable restoration of the lost property. If each of the thousands of families of sufferers could have a few hundred dollars it would be the uttermost the fund would permit of—indeed so much would be possible. What little distance this would go toward re-establishing them in their circumstances prior to the flood, anyone can see. That the Relief Commission is bound to fall short of the too sanguine expectations in this regard is very evident.

As well as can be ascertained from the rather vague and misty formal declaration of purposes by the commission last week, it proposes to continue relieving present distress and the immediate privations that will arise, rather than attempt a per capita distribution. Of course this purpose is already ensured; but the critics should at least have a better plan. None yet has appeared. That there will be much personal action at Johnston for months yet may be taken for granted. Be the process of natural recuperation swift or slow, some will lag in the race; some will be less fortunate than others; some less able in short to help themselves. An immediate distribution of all the money might make a week of temporary plenty only to be followed by many weeks of hardship for numbers of the relieved. The case clearly is one where continuous oversight and judicious administration of help for a long period yet is required.

But if the commission adopts the protracted course, the public will justly hold it to the strictest care in its disbursements. Something has been said about the cost of conducting the relief service. It will be a lasting disgrace if extravagance or jobbery to the amount of a single dollar shall be exhibited when the commission comes to file its report.

STOPPING THE SPEAK-EASIES.
The sharp sentences by Judge Stowe yesterday upon unlicensed liquor sellers should go far toward relieving the apprehensions of those who thought with Judges Gordon and White that the Supreme Court decision in favor of wholesalers, bottlers and brewers throws open the doors to a flood of intemperance and free liquor. The charming appearance in the court of "speak-easies" would, beyond doubt, attract hundreds into that quiet business if only the laws were dead. But Judge Stowe's session yesterday dispelled that brief illusion. Heavy fines and long terms of imprisonment will quickly make "speak-easy" enterprises unattractive. With unlicensed selling sharply stopped, it is not clear that the increase in the number of wholesalers, or bottlers, or brewers can work any material enlargement of the traffic, or multiply disorder in the consumption.

The attitude of the Quarter Sessions yesterday upon violations of the Brooks law will continue need not be doubted. Taking into account with it the interest which the licensed retailers have in antagonizing the competition of unlicensed places, and the public desire that high license get a full and fair trial, the "speak-easy" can soon be accounted a thing of the past.

LIGHT READING FOR ROYALTY.
There has been a rule in the English Court to give Queen Victoria a book to be read to her when no divorced person could be presented at Court. This rule has naturally borne hard upon the women than the men, for it is only to the feminine mind that the court presentation is an estate privilege. No matter whether the woman had sinned or been sinned against, her exclusion from the royal presence has inevitably followed her appearance in the court of divorce. She might have been forced to obtain a release from a husband desperately brutal or monstrously immoral, but as soon as she came near Buckingham Palace the head of the Lord Chamberlain waved her back. The precincts of the court were forbidden to her. Recently, in a moment of liberality, and it might be said, Queen Victoria decided to relax this rule and to admit those who had obtained decrees of divorce as plaintiffs to the royal presence. When the first drawing room after this decree was announced so many divorced women applied for cards of presentation that the Lord Chamberlain was threatened with paralysis and the Queen issued a new version of her royal will.

In the revised decree she is shocked to observe that the erstwhile noble and dandied ruler of Great Britain is becoming grumpy. She says that henceforth from a divorced woman shall appear before her, she the Queen, will decide by reading all the proceedings in the divorce suit, including the testimony of the witnesses, whether the character of the applicant is spotless. It is truly painful to think of Queen Victoria voluntarily undertaking to read such voluminous literature. But the old lady's exertions for getting at histories more naught than the worst of French plays is remarkably ingenious.

One by one the iron firms sign, and work in the Pittsburgh mills will go on as usual.

A LIVELY COMMISSION.
There is certainly reason for general congratulation, without regard to party lines, in the fact that the Civil Service Commission has failed to pass the examinations shows the utility of wasting the time of those representatives of physical culture over such unimportant topics as mathematics and the classics.

Three of a Kind.
From the Chicago Tribune.
Some men are born great, some achieve greatness, and some come curio a ball.

there is locate a very telling blow with its club.

It started out with a very lively shake-up of the Democratic administration of the New York Custom House. It next examined the Republican postmasters of Troy and Indianapolis, and the Indianapolis Postmaster has not yet recovered from the shock of finding that he is subject to the keen criticisms of a body of men who believe in a sharp exposure of corruption and spoils politics. It next gave the Democratic Postmaster in Milwaukee a turn, by an exposure of his practice of manipulating the list of people declared eligible by examinations, so that the person he prefers shall be certified to.

It may not be certain that the Commission will secure the complete enforcement of the civil service law, but there seems to be a gratifying assurance that under this administration the violations of the law will be given a publicity, not at all pleasant to those who make a practice of violating it.

A SERVANT WAS BY A CERTAIN estimable young lady to the drug store to get some boric acid, which was to be used for hair-cleaning purposes. The drug clerk filled the order, but by mistake substituted alum for boric acid. The servant returned and the young lady at once set to work on a handsome shampoo. It was not long before the solution of alum had been applied very thoroughly and her hair had been treated with it that the young lady discovered that instead of rendering her tresses clear and glossy, as boric acid usually does, they were becoming matted and stiff.

To cut the story short, it took an expert barber an hour or two to bring that young lady's hair out of its horrible condition. As for the drug clerk, I guess he is not out of the mess yet.

A COOL COMPROMISE.
That man it is who spends the evening cool in the quietude of his home, who wanders between the hills, and by some pool of peace and nature's grandeur drink his fill. But ten to one the modern youth replies, "My only books are women's looks, and dear to him is tennis, and he can reply: A host of merits in a glass of beer.

But why not compromise? Let women fair be still your book, but let the racket go! Avoid the heating court, stroll, do not tear Where hills and rivers' whispers rhyming flow!

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"What you come and spend a week with me just now!" said Rusticus. "The country is lovely; the air is full of scent of new mown hay, the spring chickens are ripe, the potatoes are young, fruit's abundant, everything is fresh, green, cool and comfortable. Won't you come? There's a spring near my house in a place of lovely woods. We can take our books and cigars and go and lie under the trees, and drink in the cool moon, and till sundown call it home to supper!"

"You are eloquent," the city lover replied, "but you said something about a spring; is it cool?"

"The water is ice cold; a little pool lies at the spring's foot, and—"

"Would you have any objection to profaning the hallowed depths of that cool, crystal spring with a few drops of city water?"

"No, I should have to speak of it."

"You should have told me that first. I am yours for the cool spring and the sparkling amber nectar it shall contain."

JELLY.
The dust flies up, the leaves drop down. The air is heavy in field and town. Paradise means a place that is cool, The shade of a tree, the cool of a school. The dog lies limp where there's shade, The flowers are faint and droop and fade; Nobody wants who can shrink the task, To graze the green grass, or to walk the park. Pansies brim with political lies, Palm trees from gooseberry pie; Everyone talks of summer time, But small boys fly to the creek and strip; Flies and mosquitoes multiply, But we grow less in hot July.

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THERE is a man in the Kansas City jail who is stated to be legally entitled to his freedom but he cannot get out. Kansas City, however, seems to think that it is keeping things even, in the fact that it has a great many citizens who are legally entitled to be in jail, but so far have not been successful in their endeavors to break in.

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THE TOPICAL TALKER.

A New Use for a Fan—The Drug Clerk Was a Little Off—A Cool Compromise—The Coming of July.

THEY tell me it was pretty hot even in the grandstand at the ball game yesterday afternoon. There were rather lively ladies, that is, the Republican postmasters of Troy and Indianapolis, and the Indianapolis Postmaster has not yet recovered from the shock of finding that he is subject to the keen criticisms of a body of men who believe in a sharp exposure of corruption and spoils politics. It next gave the Democratic Postmaster in Milwaukee a turn, by an exposure of his practice of manipulating the list of people declared eligible by examinations, so that the person he prefers shall be certified to.

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RATHER UNIQUE CASE.

The Manner in Which Lewis Albert Conducted His Swindling Operations.

LONDON, June 29.—The crown prosecutor of the city of Wolverhampton, in the county of Stafford, in a quadrangle. Two police men have in custody a young man who is undoubtedly worthy of severe punishment, and yet his crime is so entirely novel that he has not been punished at all, unless by the old-fashioned kind, which was used in Scotland to make a man of the gentleman in the party which circled around this brilliant being asked her why she carried so large a fan.

"To keep off flies," replied another gallant for her.

"No," said she, correcting the second speaker, "but I hope it will break the force of 'foni' to her."

The fan looked heavy enough to protect the face behind it, but fortunately no trial of its strength was made.

One of the most aggravating mistakes I've heard of in a long time was perpetrated by a drug clerk in a suburban store one day last week.

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